



# The Chamber

For a Greater Chapel Hill-Carrboro

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Mayor Hemminger, Members of Chapel Hill Town Council, and Interim Manager Blue,

In support of Chapel Hill's objectives to increase housing affordability, consistent with the key tenants of [Complete Community](#), and in furtherance of the affordable housing goals [Big Bold Ideas](#), The Chamber formally petitions the Town of Chapel Hill to evaluate a limited extension of the current water and sewer boundaries by extending the 2001 boundary one mile south of the current line to include the US 15-501 corridor to the Chatham County line at a width ranging between one half mile on either side of US 15-501 at the northern portion and narrowing as it approaches the Chatham County line, designed to exclude Smith Level Road.

Please note that the land included in this proposed extension is within Chapel Hill's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction and outside of the [Rural Buffer](#) and that the boundaries set by the 2001 [Water and Sewer Management, Planning, and Boundary Agreement](#) (WASMPBA) has been modified several times to respond to changing conditions.

In making this petition, we offer the following in support of your consideration of our request:

- Greater Chapel Hill-Carrboro is experiencing a significantly increased pressure on our limited local housing supply, with prices of for-sale and for-rent housing growing by as much as 20% per year in the last several years.
- The most recent Census commuting data shows more than 48,849 workers commuting into Orange County from outside every day (43,349 commuting into Chapel Hill).
- The area proposed for service extension is along a robust transportation corridor already served by local transit routes (NS and CCX) and within reach of the planned North-South Bus Rapid Transit.
- Expanding the OWASA service area will enable the development of multifamily housing, bringing housing more proximate to employment centers, and creating the population density needed to support transit and reduce commuter traffic.
- Extending water and sewer service along the corridor will guide future development to the 15-501 corridor and away from Smith Level Road.
- Expanding OWASA service will provide reliable water and sewer service, diminishing reliance on aging well and septic systems and offering improved fire protection.
- Without extension, undeveloped properties along the corridor, currently zoned low-density residential, will likely result in high-end single-family homes as opposed density.
- Extending water and sewer service to this area is well within OWASA capacities.

In partnership,

  
Aaron Nelson, President and CEO

Thank You to Our 2023Community Champions!



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL



# Appendix A

## Water and Sewer Management Planning and Boundary Agreement

